IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/579,943

: Yukinori IIZUKA et al. Applicants

Filed : May 22, 2006

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

DETECTING CRATER END OF

Art Unit : 1793

: Kevin P. KERNS Examiner

Docket No. : 06334/HG

Confirm. No.: 9209

Customer No.: 01933

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

STR .

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 10, 2009, the term for response to which is extended three months by a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME filed concomitantly herewith to expire on December 10, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows. Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract are set forth on page 22 of this paper. Amendments to the Drawings are set forth on page 23 of this paper and include both a replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing a change to Fig. 17.

Remarks begin on page 24 of this paper.

An Appendix including an amended drawing figure is attached following the last page of this paper.

This paper is being submitted via EFS-Web on

November 18, 2009

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not already CONTINUOUSLY CAST PRODUCT... paid, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any fees for which payment has not been submitted, or to credit any overpayments, to Account No. 06-1378.